March 3, 1958

MEMORANDUM TO: The President

FROM: Director, Political Affairs Division

SUBJECT: M. Abramtchik

Abramtchik called on me today, at his request, to make a renewed plea for financial assistance during his present visit to the U.S. Additionally, I was called up by Marlak of the Belorussian organization in New York, to buttress the request made by Abramtchik. I have made no promises nor commitments.

Specifically, Abramtchik is asking us to grant him $2,000 to continue his stay in the U.S., and to endeavor to whip up the Belorussian emigration into greater activity in the cold war. Abramtchik explained in great detail his efforts on our behalf during the past year. He maintains that he made five trips to Munich during 1957, all of them in connection with the proposed Anti-Colonial Congress, and for reasons solely connected with collaboration with the American Committee. Marlak, also, states that the sums of money transferred to Abramtchik from the U.S. during the past year were very minimal ones, in view of the difficulty of collecting dues from Belorussians, a very large number of whom have been without work during the recession. He pointed out that collections have been the lowest in a very long time.

I feel that Abramtchik has done more for the cause of Anti-Bolshevik nationalities relations than any one in the emigration. Accordingly, I believe that we should entertain a motion to meet Abramtchik's expenses to the total of the $2,000 which he requests. It is not a nebulous grant; Abramtchik has really given us services, far beyond those of any leader within the Bloc, and deserves an assist.

May I say that Baryah, Matharsky, Spenser Williams and Dutch all believe that assistance to Abramtchik is warranted in this case.

E.K. Kuzihain